

London, 29th March 2017

Auditory-perceptual profile of FADO's singing voice

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FADO

- *Fatum*: destino
- UNESCO



Mariza “Ó gente da minha terra”



Voz humana



Guitarra portuguesa



Viola

FADO and fashion



Auditory-perception



Orlikoff et al., 1999

Objectives

1. Describe auditory-perceptual profile of Fado's voice.
2. Differences:
 - gender
 - professional experience
 - age

METHODS

Subjects: 40 listeners

Judges	Gender	N	Age	Experience (yrs)
			\bar{X}	\bar{X}
ST	M	4	38	17
	F	6	53	30
SLT	M	2	33	9
	F	8	41	15
FS	M	3	39	24
	F	7	37	13
NL	M	3	30	0
	F	7	42	0
Total		40		

ST = singing teachers; SLT = speech and language therapist; FS = Fado singers'; NL = naive listeners; M = male; F = female.

4 groups ?

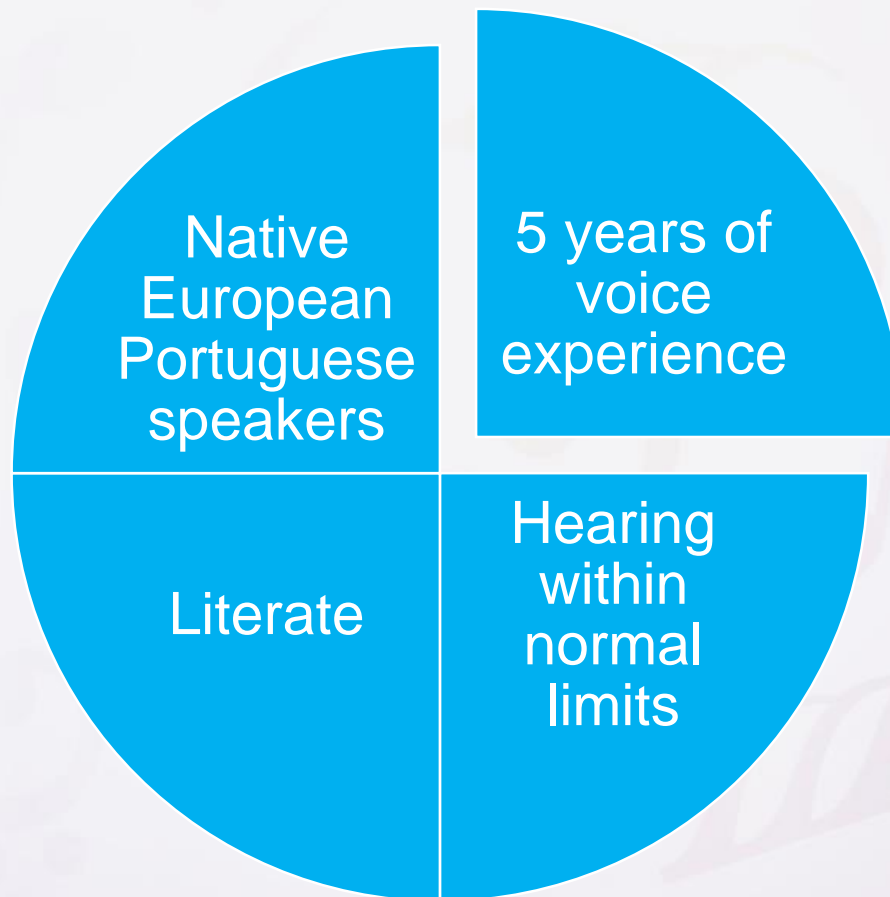
Education

Artists

Health

Consumers

Listeners: inclusion criteria



Subjects: singers

Fado chorus: “Nem às paredes Confesso” (*Not even to the walls I confess*).

Gender	N	Professional experience	Age
			\bar{X}
M	5	A	43
	5	P	38
F	5	A	35
	5	P	29
Total		20	

M = male; F = female; A = amateur; P = professional.



Singers: inclusion criteria

1. Native European Portuguese (EP) speakers;
2. > 18 years;
3. No history of:
 - ✓ Voice, speech, and/or language disorders;
 - ✓ Allergic and/or respiratory problems on recording day;
4. Literacy;
5. No knowledge and/or participation on a similar study

Amateurs vs. Professionals

- Payment for their performance
- Singing education ≥ 1 yr
- ENT exam 1x yr

Procedures for listeners subjects

Informed consent form
Questionnaire



Auditory screening (1, 2, 4 KHz a 25 dB)



Noise environment < 50 dB



Voice samples in an open field at 70 dB



Singing voice rating scale: EAVOCZ

Stimuli for voice samples

Portuguese (original)	English (translation)
<p>“De quem eu gosto nem às paredes confesso. E até aposto que não gosto de ninguém. Podes sorrir, Podes mentir, Podes chorar também. De quem eu gosto nem às paredes confesso”.</p>	<p>Not even to the walls I confess to whom I love Moreover, I bet that I love no one You can laugh, You can lie, You can also cry Not even to the walls I confess to whom I love</p>



20
stimuli

EAVOCZ

A.

- Pitch
- Loudness

E

- Voice projection
- Vibrato
- Timbre
- Emotional expression
- Tuning
- Brilliance
- Global voice appreciation

B

- Resonance

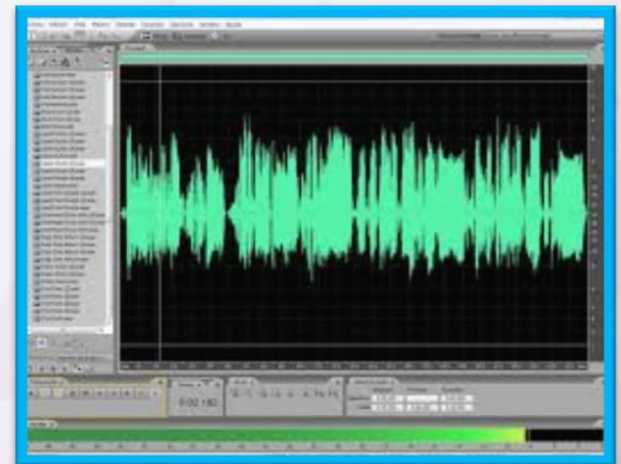
C

- Phono-respiratory coordination
- Articulation

D

- Roughness
- Breathiness
- Tension
- Asthenia

Equipment for listeners



Equipment for singers



Statistic analysis

SPSS
v.22

- Descriptive analysis
- Inferential statistics
 - Independent t-test
 $\alpha=.05$

RESULTS

A-NOVA



No significant differences:

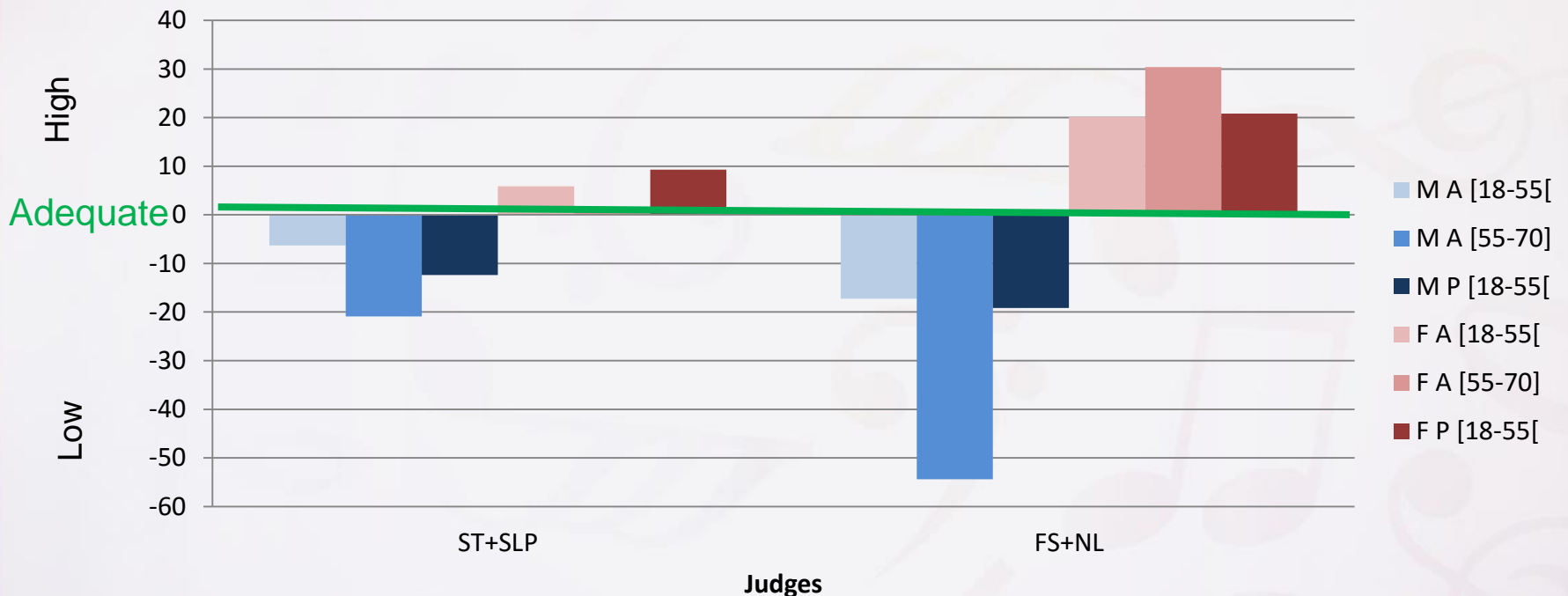
- ST vs. SLT
- FS vs. NL
- $p > .05$

% correct ANSWERS

Item		Singer's total	% of correct answers			
			ST	SLT	FS	NL
Gender	Male	10	100	97	100	99
	Female	10	100	100	100	99
Age range	<18	0	-	-	-	-
	[18-55[18	70	72	78	53
	[55-70]	2	70	60	55	50
	>70	0	-	-	-	-
Professional experience	Amateur	10	59	70	80	70
	Professional	10	52	46	37	30

ST=singing teacher; SLT= speech and language therapist; FS=Fado singer; NL=naive listener

A. Pitch



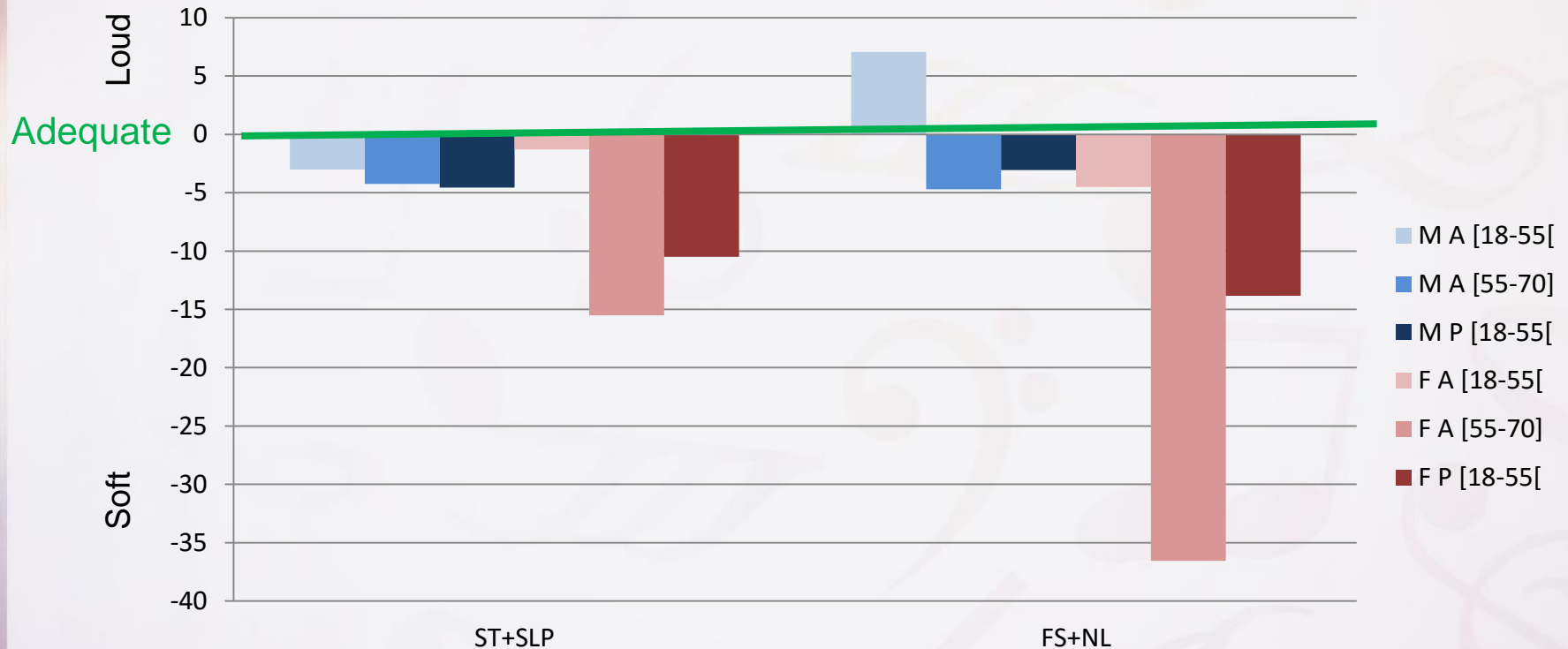
ST+SLT

Male < female ($p=.00$)
 Male amateur younger > older
 ($p=.04$)

FS+NL

Male < female ($p=.00$)
 Male amateur younger > older
 ($p=.00$)

A. Loudness



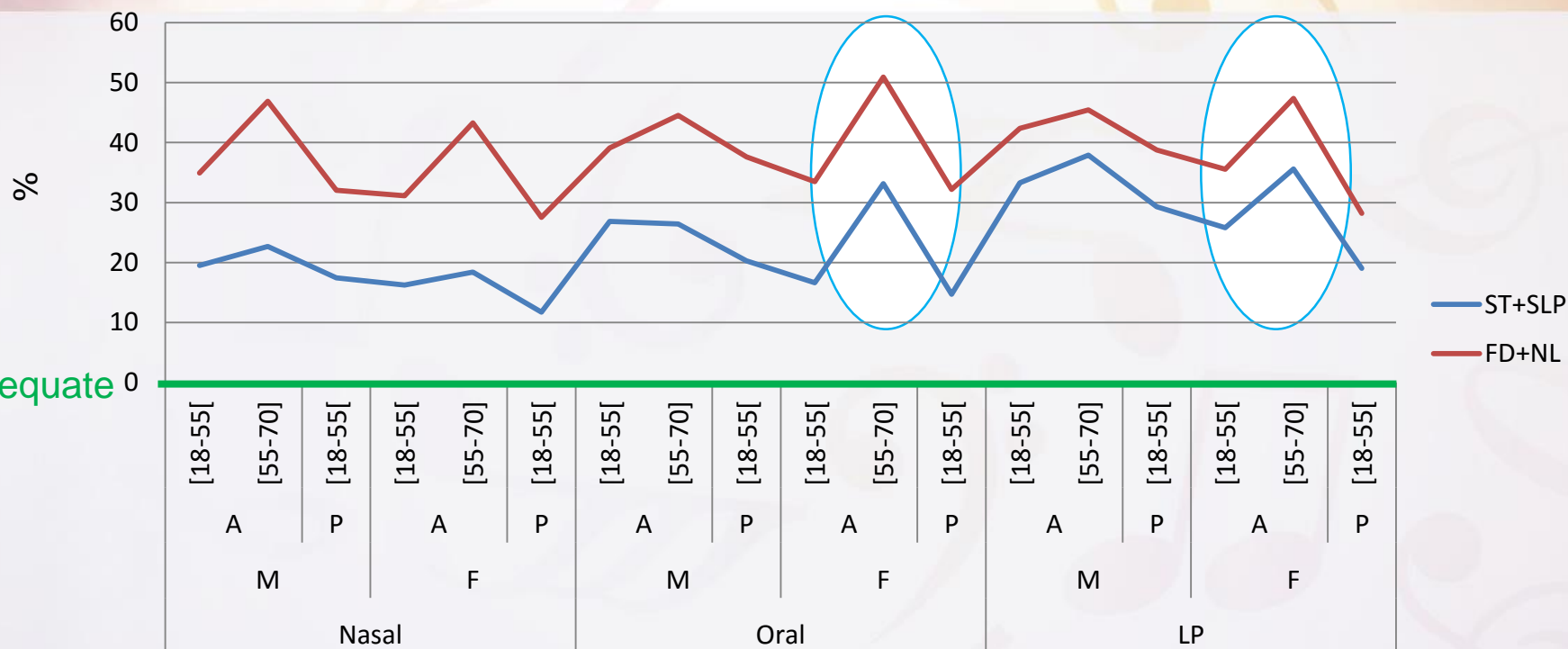
ST+SLT

FS+NL

Male > female ($p=.00$)

Female amateur younger > older ($p=.01$)

B. Resonance



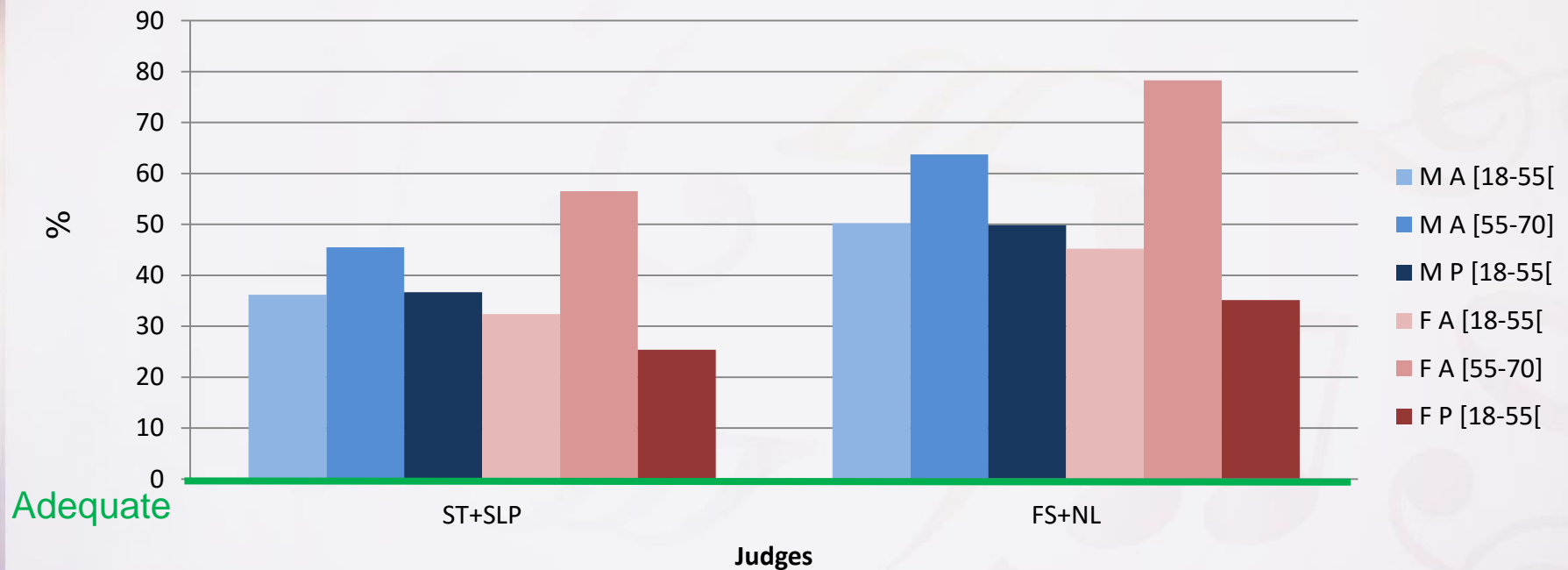
ST+SLT

Male > female ($p_{\text{oral}} = .00$; $p_{\text{LP}} = .00$)
 Female amateur > professional ($p_{\text{LP}} = .02$)
 Female amateur younger < older ($p_{\text{oral}} = .03$)

FS+NL

Male > female ($p_{\text{LP}} = .01$)
 Female amateur > professional ($p_{\text{LP}} = .02$)
 Female amateur younger < older ($p_{\text{oral}} = .02$)

C. Phono-respiratory coordination



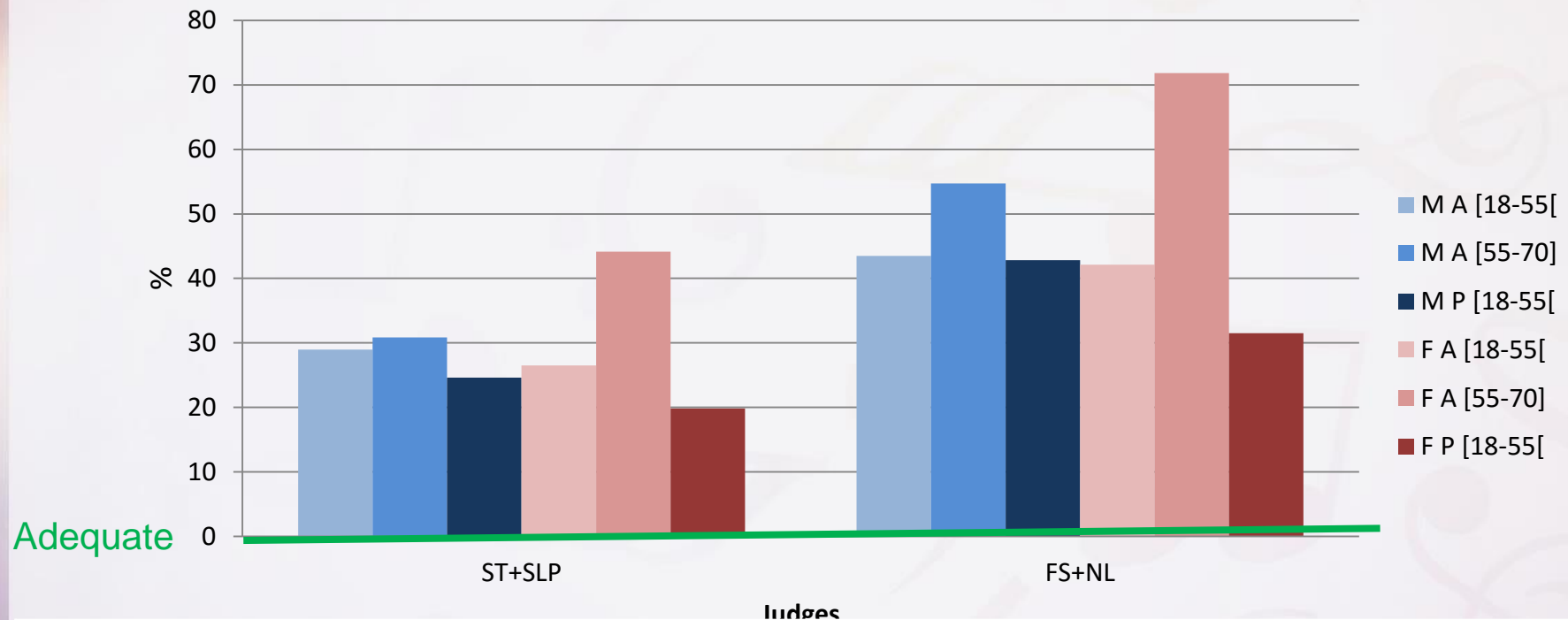
ST+SLT

Male > female ($p=.02$)
 Female amateur > professional ($p=.00$)
 Female amateur younger < older ($p=.00$)

FS+NL

Male > female ($p=.01$)
 Female amateur > professional ($p=.00$)
 Male amateur younger < older ($p=.04$)
 Female amateur younger < older ($p=.00$)

C. Articulation



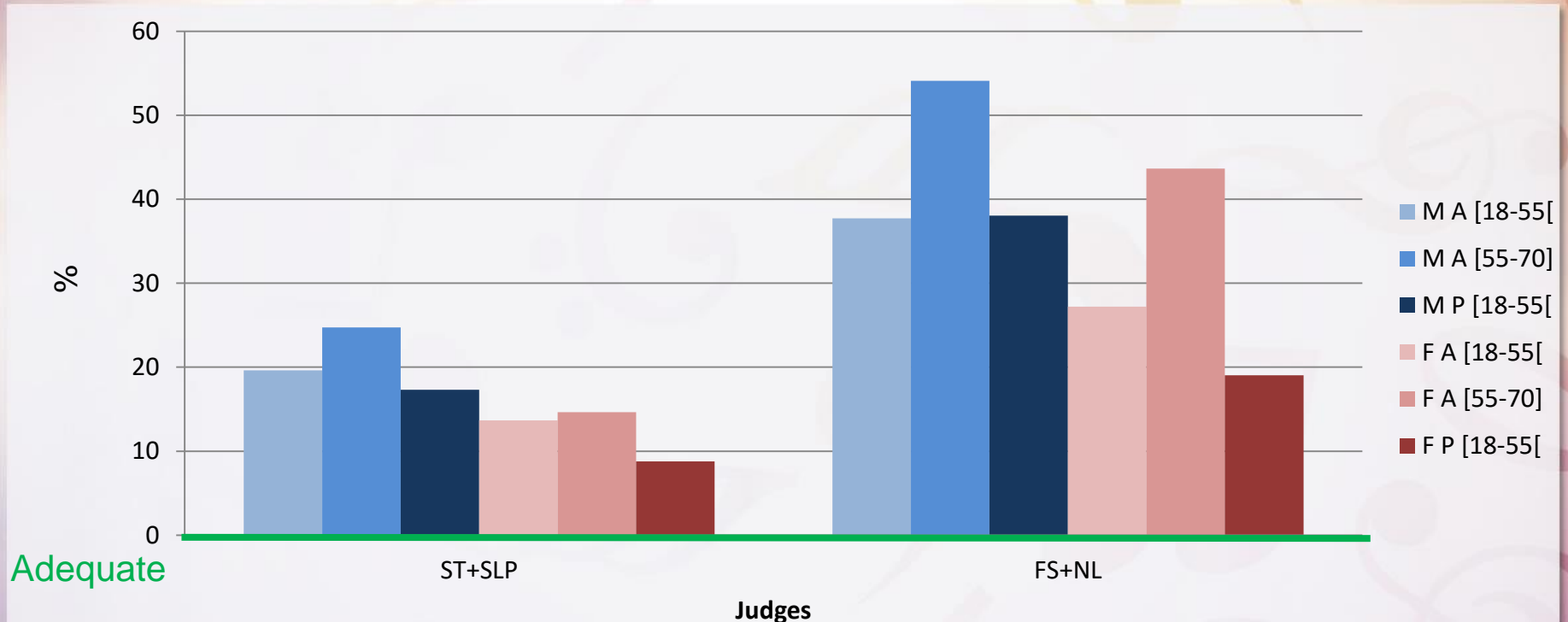
ST+SLT

Female amateur > professional ($p=.00$)
 Female amateur younger < older
 ($p=.00$)

FS+NL

Female amateur > professional ($p=.00$)
 Female amateur younger < older
 ($p=.00$)

D. Roughness



ST+SLT

Male > female ($p=.00$)

Female amateur > professional ($p=.02$)

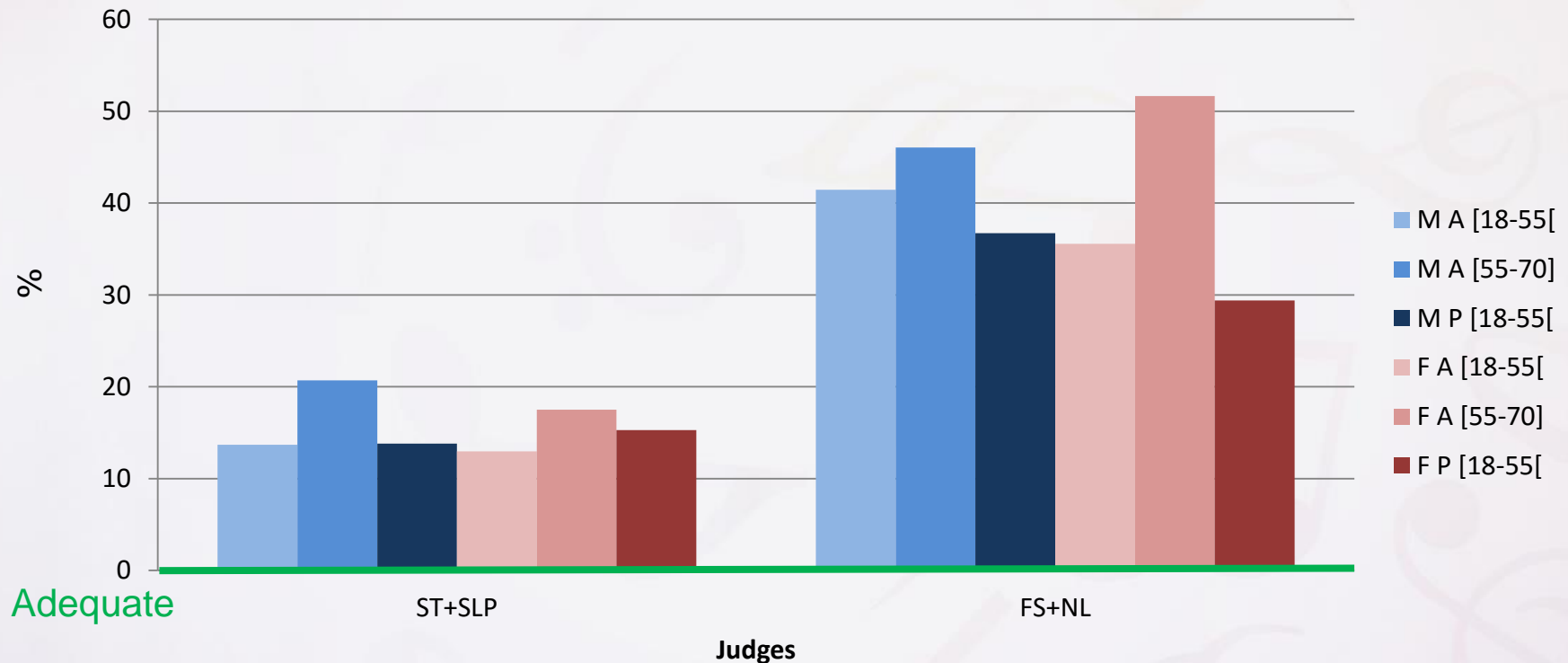
FS+NL

Male > female ($p=.00$)

Female amateur > professional ($p=.00$)

Male amateur younger < older ($p=.02$)

D. Breathiness

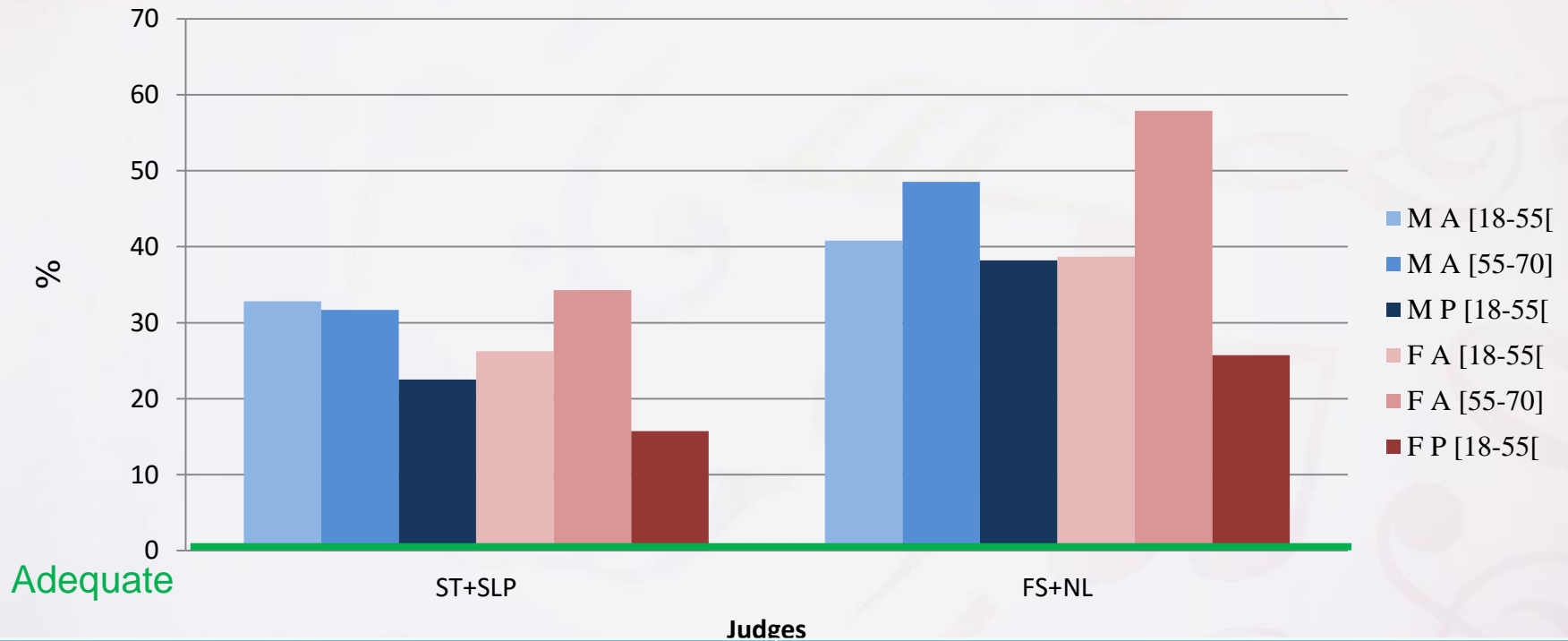


ST+SLT

FS+NL

Female amateur > professional
($p=.03$)

D. Tension



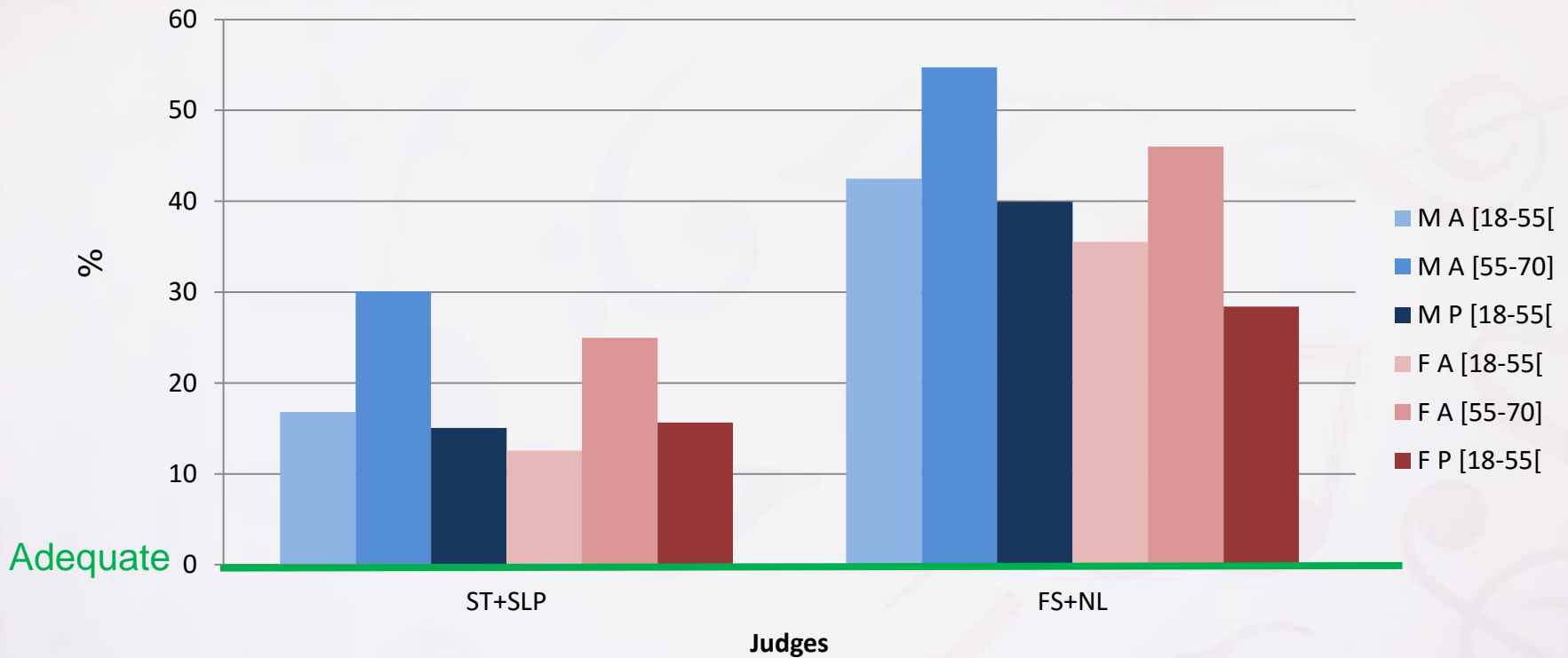
ST+SLT

Male > female ($p=.02$)
 Amateur > professional ($p_{\text{male}}=.01$;
 $p_{\text{female}}=.00$)

FS+NL

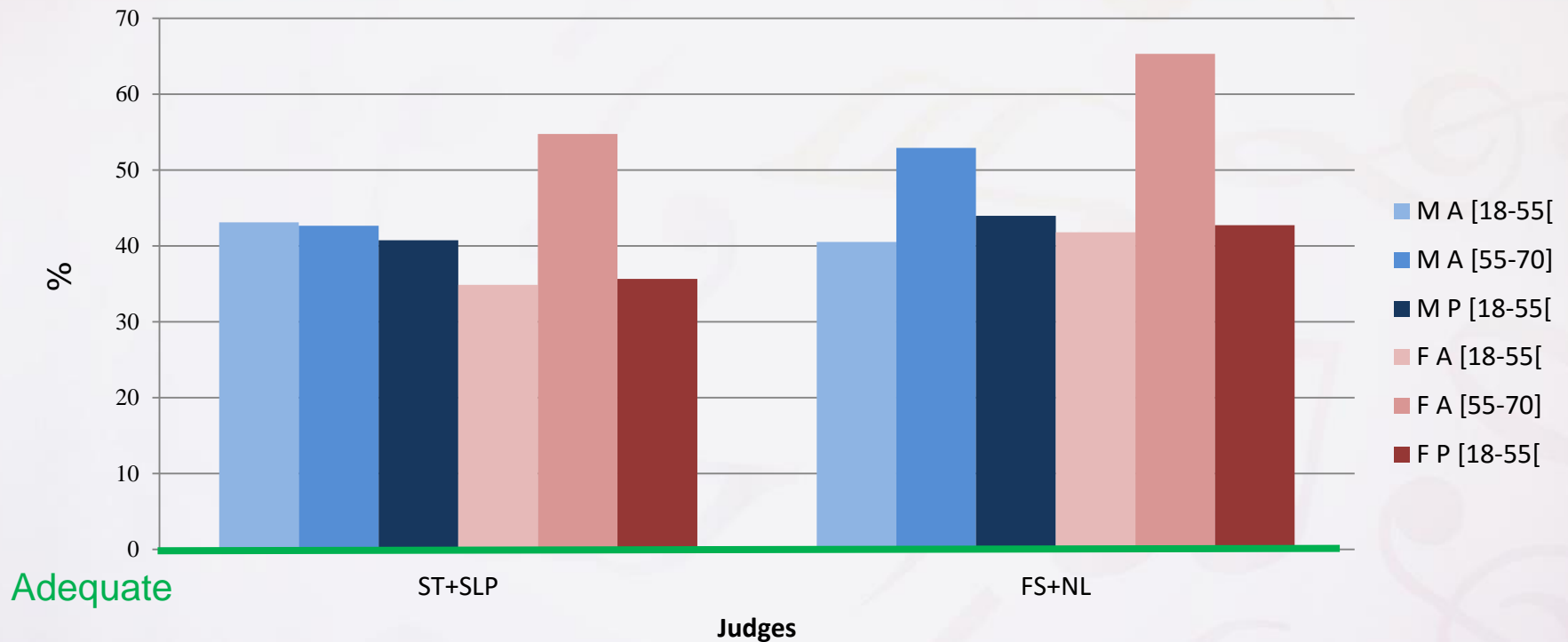
Male > female ($p=.03$)
 Female amateur > professional ($p=.00$)
 Female amateur younger < professional
 ($p=.02$)

D. Asthenia



ST+SLT	FS+NL
	Male > female ($p=.00$)
	Female amateur > professional ($p=.03$)

E. Voice projection



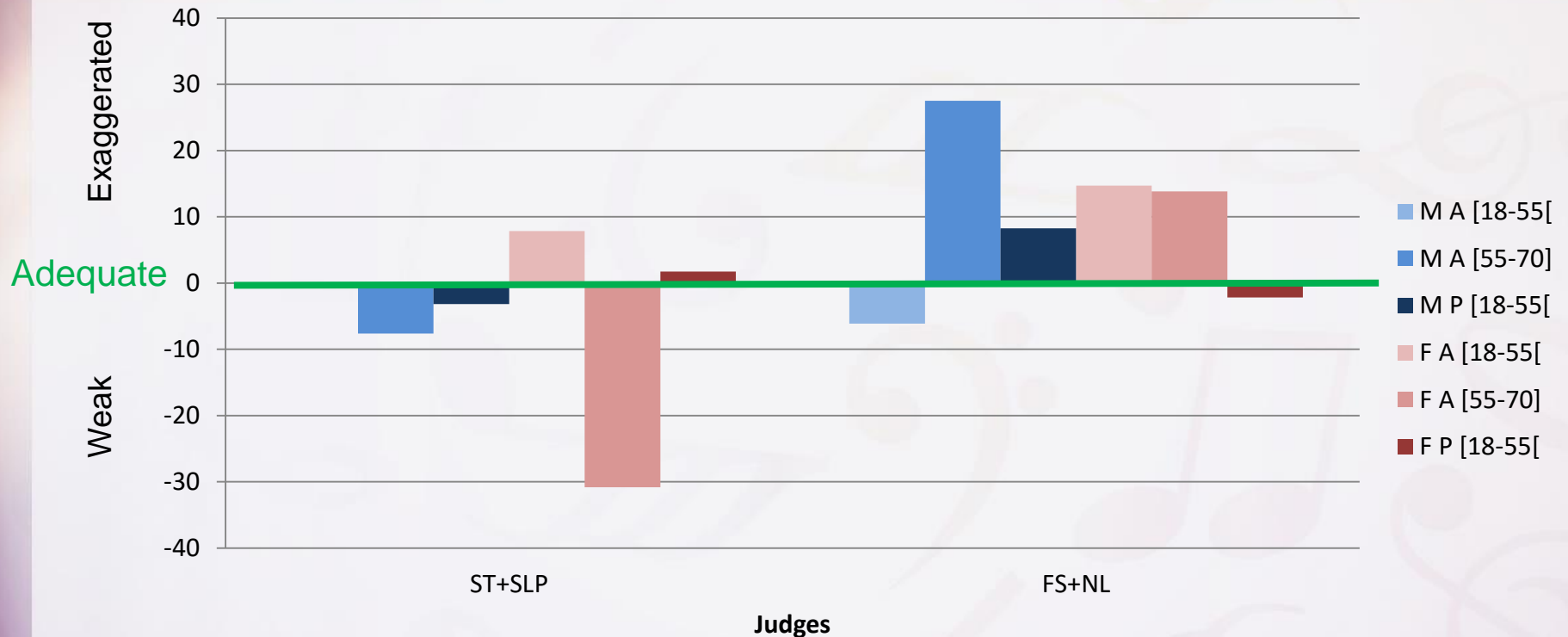
ST+SLT

Female amateur younger < older
($p=.00$)

FS+NL

Female amateur younger < older
($p=.00$)

E. Vibrato

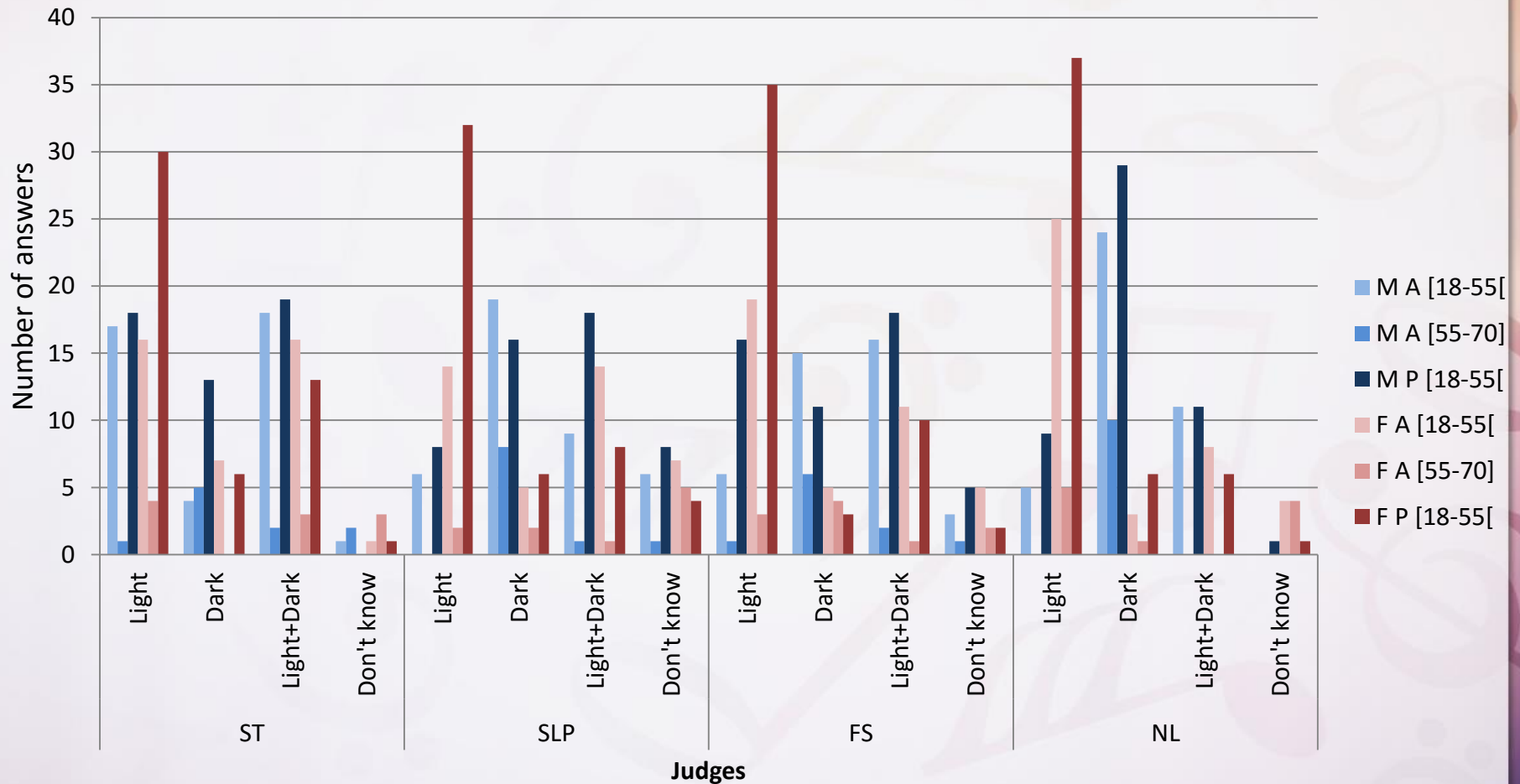


ST+SLT

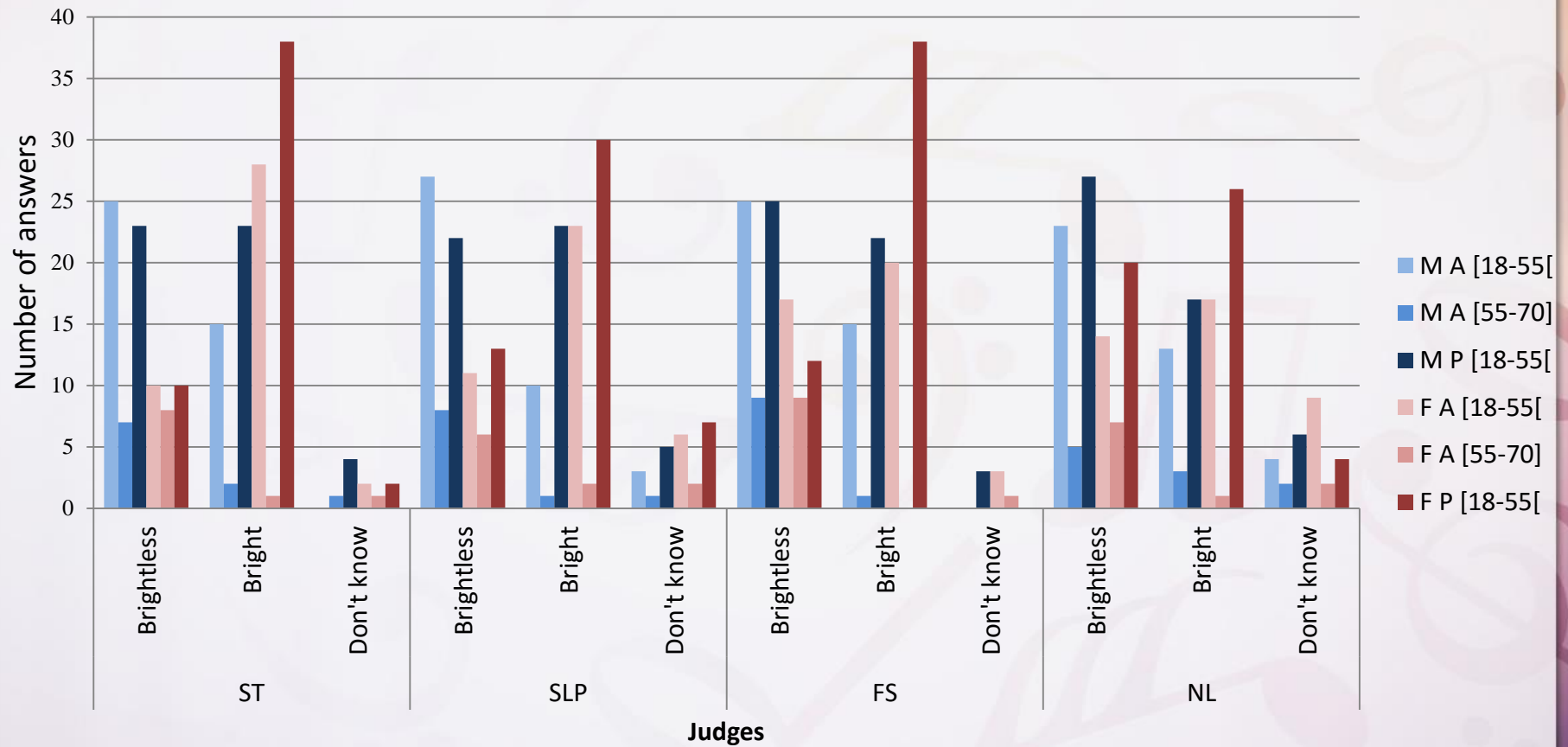
FS+NL

Female amateur > professional ($p=.02$)
 Male amateur younger < older ($p=.03$)

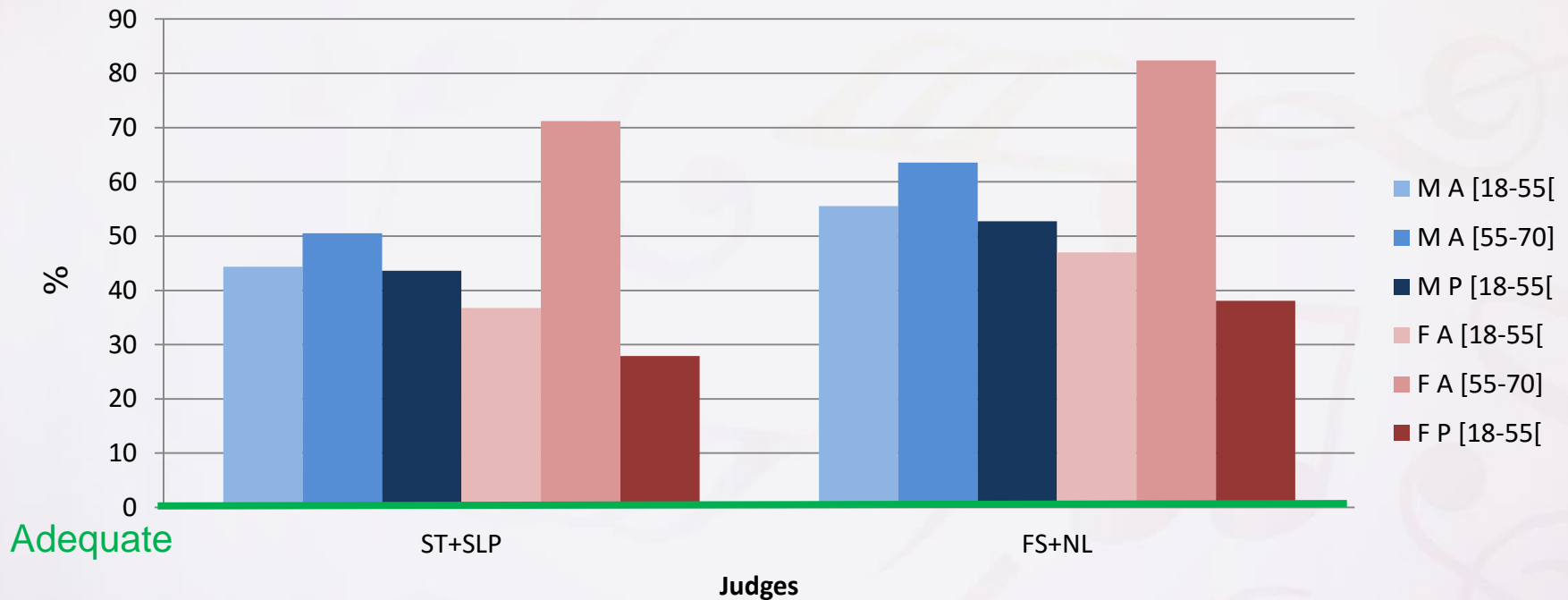
E. Timbre



E. Brilliance



E. Emotional expression



ST+SLT

Male < female ($p=.00$)

Female amateur > professional ($p=.00$)

Female amateur younger < older ($p=.00$)

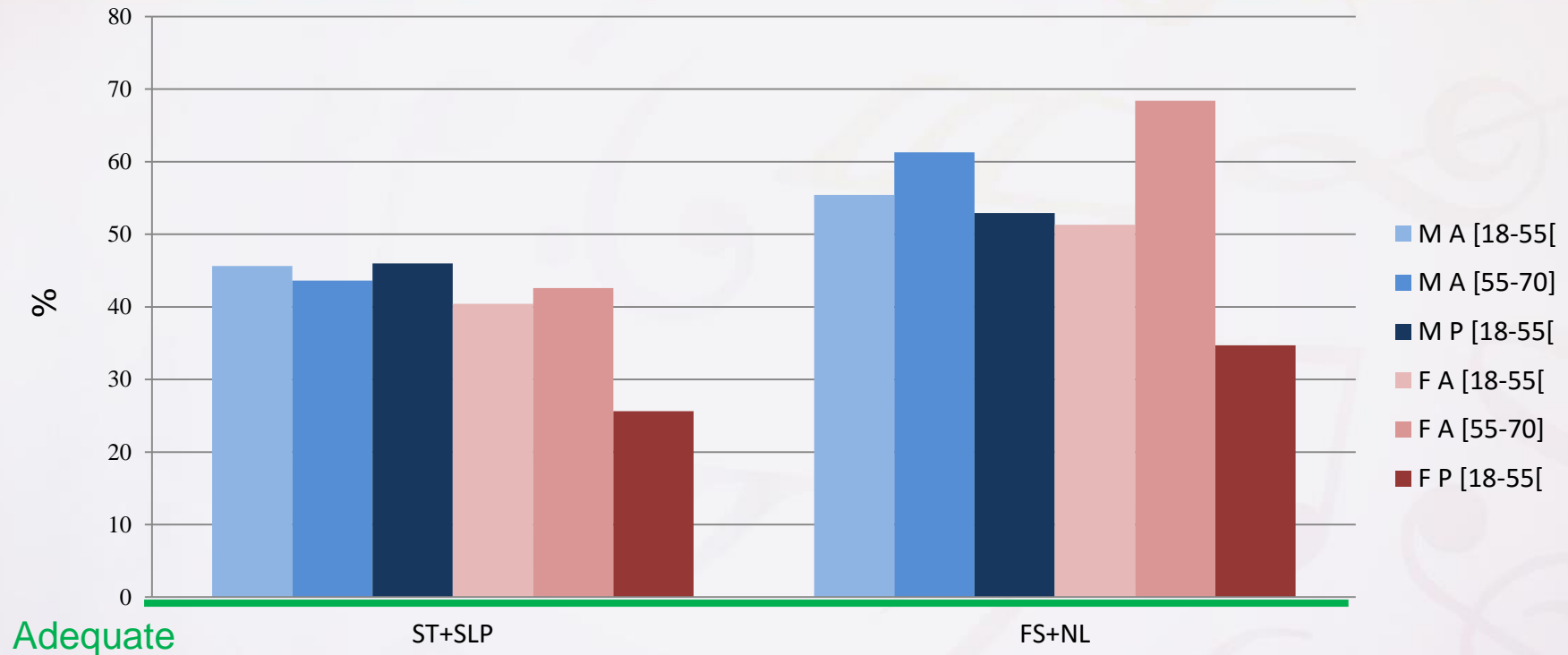
FS+NL

Male > female ($p=.00$)

Female amateur > professional ($p=.00$)

Female amateur younger < older ($p=.00$)

E. Tuning



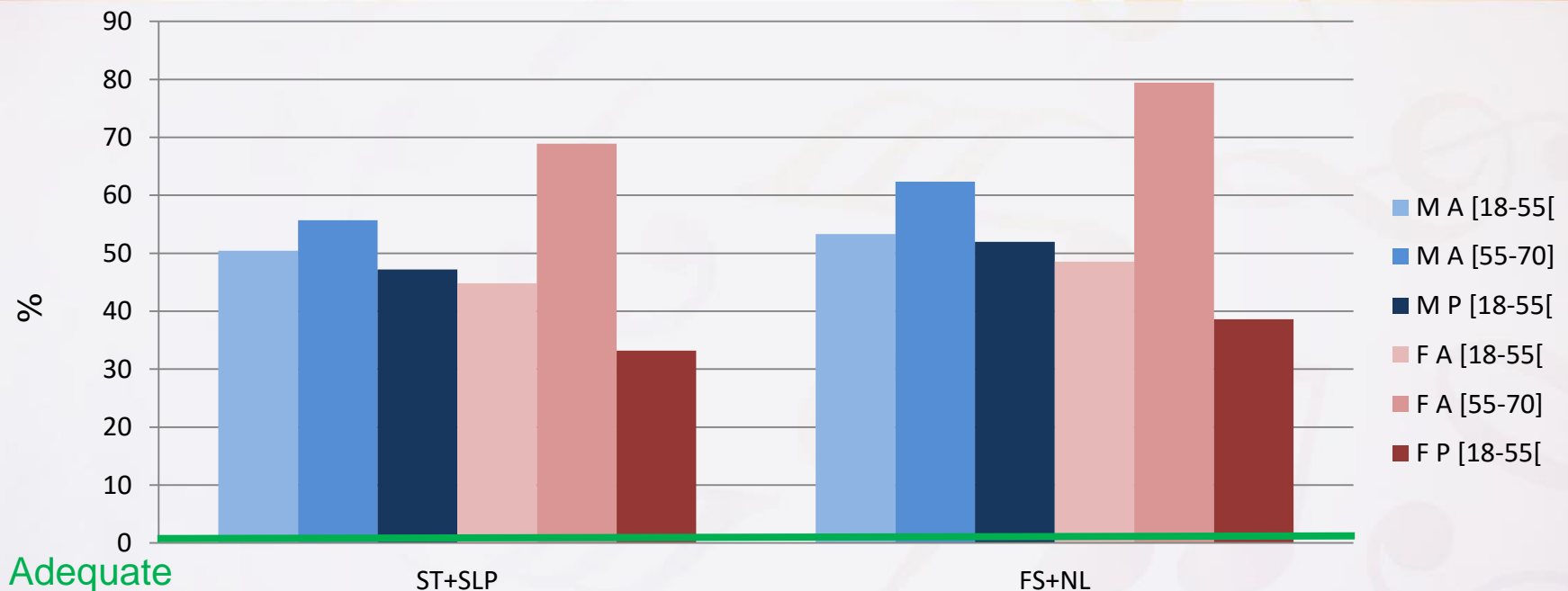
ST+SLT

Male > female ($p=.00$)
 Female amateur > professional ($p=.00$)

FS+NL

Male > female ($p=.00$)
 Female amateur > professional ($p=.00$)
 Female amateur younger < older ($p=.02$)

E. Global appreciation



ST+SLT

Male > female ($p=.00$)
 Female amateur > professional ($p=.00$)
 Female amateur younger < older ($p=.00$)

FS+NL

Male > female ($p=.00$)
 Female amateur > professional ($p=.00$)
 Female amateur younger < older ($p=.00$)

Conclusion

AP profile – FADO's voice

- **Low** pitch, **weak** loudness
- **Oral** and **laryngopharyngeal** resonance,
- **Adequate** phono-respiratory coordination and articulation
- Vocal quality: **rough, breathy, tense and asthenic**
- **Weak** or **exaggerated** vibrato
- **Absence** of voice projection
- **Dark** timber (♂) and **light** (♀) and **no** brilliance
- With emotional expression and semi-tunned voices
- Semi-overall appreciation: FA

Future research

- Study the acoustic environment characteristics of Fado performance houses to improve singers' professional conditions.

References

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PATRIMÓNIO DA
HUMANIDADE

FADO

HERITAGE OF
HUMANITY

THANK YOU!!!
Obrigada!



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